



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Correspondence Received

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
SHEILA KUEHL
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
4.		Favor	Aimee G Ellicott	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people.</p>



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4.		Favor	Alex Fierro-Clarke	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Alix Luntz	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Annedell C Walker	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because they will have more emotional support. Providing incarcerated people with the basic human right to speak to their loved ones freely will help prevent emotional distress and mental health crises and may allow them to better survive the oppressive conditions of prison.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Anthony Arenas	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I believe ensuring free phone calls and at-cost commissary items is essential because those are human beings that are being locked in cages. Cutting off contact with the outside world doesn't seem to be a punishment, who's deserving of that? It's cruel and does nothing to bring relief to themselves nor to their loved ones outside.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Ashley Glacel	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Ashley Locke	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Ashley M Plotkin	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>
			Ashley P Brim	



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4.		Favor	Brad K Kaiserman	<p>I am a criminal defense attorney in Los Angeles County. The fact that either I or my clients have to pay every time we wish to discuss my client's case on the phone undermines my client's rights to counsel and the presumptions of innocence. It's also horrendous that individuals who are already physically removed from their families should have to jump an additional hurdle simply to speak with their loved ones on the phone.</p> <p>Moreover, companies should absolutely not be profiting off of the fact that inmates have a limited selection of goods to choose from while incarcerated.</p> <p>Thank you Supervisors Solis and Mitchell for bringing this motion.</p>
			Bri Maranga	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls.</p> <p>Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Brittany Meckelborg	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Celeste Clamage	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I strongly support the removal of these fees because I know it will improve the lives of incarcerated people who are already facing many abuses and roadblocks within the justice system. People should not need to rely on their savings to avoid being completely cut off from the family members and communities that they have been taken from.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Charles Jensen	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I believe people experiencing incarceration deserve compassion--and people who do not have means to generate income should not be charged fees for basic services.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Charley Casler	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Charlotte Soestini	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because it's doesn't make sense to expect someone who is unable to have an income to be expected to pay more for items just because they have no choice of where to buy them.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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SHEILA KUEHL
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
4.		Favor	CHRIS R RIDDLE	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>These fees and markups are just another way to unfairly punish the poor and less privileged, while reinforcing power dynamics inside the prison that are based on class and privilege. Ending these fees will create more equal conditions among those incarcerated.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Cody D Sloan	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because I have incarcerated friends.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Dan Monick	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
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4.		Favor	Dena Kelley	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because I work with you in south and east LA and know how many more hurdles they have to jump to just be free, safe, and happy. I don't believe in juvenile detention centers at all, but as long as they are here, all expense should fall on the state and not the youth who are often arbitrarily incarcerated, or rather incarcerated for reasons that their white counterparts in Barger's district, for example, are not.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Emilia Richeson	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>[I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because all folks will have greater chances of connecting with loved ones regardless of economic means!</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
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4.		Favor	Emily Shesh	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because easy access to a loved ones could make or break an inmate's chances of reforming and getting out. High fees are another form of isolation and that's not beneficial to the ultimate goal of supporting inmates in recovery and growth.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>
			Genevieve M Clavreul	



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4.		Favor	Geoffrey Golden	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because prisoners will be able to eat properly, take care of themselves, and stay connected to their families -- crucially, without the burden of guilt of punishing their families with massive bills.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Gregory J Irwin	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
4.		Favor	Herley Jim Bowling	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board. This will make a big difference! (See Orange is the New Black - book or series - which has been out for awhile I know but shows this well.)</p>



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4.		Favor	Jacob Sternberg	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Je-Show Yang	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Jewell Karinen	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Joan Harper	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because they need these services, they need to stay connected to their families and we need them to be as healthy as possible.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>
			Jordan Harari	



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Correspondence Received

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Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
4.		Favor	Jordan Riggs	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Jorge De Cecco	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>
			julie D Martinez	



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4.		Favor	Kathy Yamamoto	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because it eliminates financial barriers for those of low income. In theory, incarceration should be a great equalizer, and everyone should be treated based on their crimes, not their bank balance. The founding fathers knew that incarceration based on being low income was unfair and worked to prevent that by eliminating debtors jails. However, with loop holes like charging for basic amenities, we pervert justice. This is a simple way to get closer to the justice that our constitution promises us.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Katie Edgerton	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Kelly E Reilly	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Kendall A Sherwood	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Lani Engstrom	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Laura Adery	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Louise Dobbs	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>It is hard to fathom that incarcerated people have to buy, at profit driven prices, their basic necessities. That is salt in the wound! Also, let the incarcerated people have access to communication! They are still humans, needing human-to-human contact. It is cruel to limit or curtail communication.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Mara Fisher	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Mario C Batres	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Matthew Bogdanow	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p>



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4.		Favor	Melissa Butts	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Nannah M Nitecka	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Peter Dandrea	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls.</p> <p>Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
SHEILA KUEHL
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

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4.		Favor	Rebecca Himmelstein	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Sarah Gebhardt	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>
			Sean Donahue	



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4.		Favor	Selina Ho	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because having more access and connection to communities and families back home is essential to their well-being.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>
			Sikivu Hutchinson	



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4.		Favor	Stephanie F Cupp	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because fostering family and community ties will benefit both the incarcerated and their families so the incarcerated have better support upon release and so that family members, including children, have support of their incarcerated family members.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>



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4.		Favor	Stephen Brantley	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p>



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4.		Favor	Susan Anderson	<p>Thank you Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Mitchell for introducing this motion. I urge the Board to pass the motion to accelerate the elimination of phone fees and commissary markups in all County jails and juvenile camps and halls.</p> <p>Phone calls are one of the few humanizing lifelines for incarcerated people: when people are locked away from society, maintaining access to their loved ones is critical, and losing access to them is isolating and detrimental to the well-being of both the incarcerated person and their loved ones. Many families cannot talk to their children at all, and some families go into debt trying to maintain connections. It is simply inhumane to charge incarcerated people for phone calls -- especially since they are also denied the ability to work for fair wages. Furthermore, despite the financial hardship these fees create for families, the amount of money LASD gets from phone fees is just 1% of the department's budget.</p> <p>People rely on commissary while they are incarcerated to buy key necessities like food, toothpaste, soap, and other hygiene products -- which are especially important during the pandemic. But the County is letting predatory private companies jack up the prices on these items, meaning people end up paying far more than they would on the outside, despite having no access to employment or income to pay for these things while incarcerated. This is yet another example of prisons punishing poverty, and the economic burden of phone calls and commissary markups primarily falls on Black and Brown families that are already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>I know that ending these fees and markups in County facilities will create better conditions for incarcerated people because connecting with family and hygiene are human necessities, human rights.</p> <p>I thank the Supervisors for emphasizing in this motion that other technological means of connection should be explored, like WebEx and video calls. Increasing access to communication for those incarcerated is one way to assist people with maintaining community connections and facilitating a smooth re-entry following release. I encourage the Board to direct the LASD and CEO's office to refrain from contracting with greedy corporations that exploit LA families for profit, and to stick to the Care First promise made by this Board.</p>
			Tara Gardner	
		Item Total	56	

Grand Total			56	
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